MEMORY

OF THAT

Faithful Servant of Christ

William Carter,

Late of *Cumberland* (Deceased,)

REVIVED

IN THE

Testimonies of Certain Faithful Friends given concerning
him, his Faithful Ministry and Blessed End

LONDON, Should be 1690

Printed for *Thomas Northcott*, in *George-Yard* in *Lumbard-street*, MDXC.

Tigton Sh

John Stott

Londonderry

The living Remembrance of my deceaſed Friend William Carter, *draws from me this following Teſtimony concerning him.*

IN as much as he was not only my familiar at home, but (through Providence) Companion and True Yoke-fellow abroad, both in *Scotland* and *Ireland*; ſo from that knowledge I had of him, with Service in his day, ſhall endeavour in part to ſet forth to others his worth.

He was a Man whom the Lord's Power had ſweetly qualified, through which he was livingly indued with a Gift of the Miniſtry, in which Service he was greatly bleſt to the turning of many from Darkneſs to Light, and from Satan's deadly Power to God's, which lives forever, through the Livingneſs of which Power his deliberate Miniſtry was intellegibly delivered to the reaching of God's holy Witneſs in Peoples hearts, and to the raiſing of Life and living Senſe, in the ſeveral reſpective Meetings of Friends, where the Lord was pleas'd to order him; for it was the delight of his Soul thus to be imploy'd in a Co-working with Chriſt, and not to be popular in the ſight of men, but by the Grace of God to be good in his ſight, and an Example of it to all Men; As this I know was his real deſire, ſo 'twas his daily practice as did and doth become a Miniſter of Chriſt, his ſelf-denying Life, with mild, [illegible] grave Deportment at home and abroad, as many can witneſs, was ſo ſuitable to his Miniſtry, which made it the more effectual. For ſince it was my Happineſs to be his Companion (as aboveſaid) I often obſerved when he had come into a Meeting of Friends he would appear very low and mean; but being ſetled in his own gift, as his manner was there to wait upon the Lord, in which exerciſe God gave him a Senſe of the preſent State of the Meeting, and when he opened his Mouth 'twould have been in meekneſs of Wiſdom, but plainneſs of Speech; yet being delivered with Clemency it proved heart-affecting; and though his Teſtimony was ſometimes ſharp and very piercing, 'twas to ſuch who dwelt not peaceably under the Yoke of Chriſt,

or remained only in the Profeſſion of Truth, and did not *Come*
Gal. 1.6. *under the Power of the Croſs*, which crucifies to the World, for he could never bear with deceit under what pretence ſoever, but was rather a Terrour to evil Doers, ſo unreſiſtable was that
Mark 6.7. Power which ſpake through him upon ſuch Occaſions, *That unclean and Evil Spirits were made ſubject*; he was a true and faithful Warrier in the Lamb's Warfare, his Arrows did not return to the Quiver till the End was effected, wherefore they went forth; he was ſo frequently taught in Chriſt's School, the Place where true Diſcipline and holy Apoſtleſhip, is ever learnt, that he was fitted with matter ſuitable in his Miniſtry to every State, in fixing Judgment upon the Tranſgreſſor, but very merciful and full of Bowels to the Weeklings of the Flock; he would ſcarce ſit down till his Life had an Anſwer in the meetings of Friends, but when he felt life in Friend's Anſwer, that Life in which he ſpoke, then was his Spirit eaſie, and ſo concluded in few words, for his Life did not conſiſt in the multitude of words, but in the ſweet Injoyment of the word nigh in the heart, unto which he often directed friends minds, through which he was *inſtrumental to beget others in Chriſt Jeſus through the Goſpel*; he was a Man of deep Experience of the dealings of God with his Soul, of which he would often ſpeak in his Miniſtry for the incouraging of Old and Young, whoſe Feet the Lord had turned into the way towards ſpiritual *Canaan*, with frequent Exhortations to ſuch, not to ſit down by the way, but in faithfulneſs and unwearied minds, ſtill to travail on, that no labour might be loſt, but the Crown in the End might be obtained; theſe and ſuch like Expreſſions being delivered in the Demonſtration of the Spirit and Power of God, did ſo affect the Hearts of ſuch who were travailing *Sion* ward, even to the breaking and tendering thereof, ſo that Tears would plentifully fall from their Eyes; As 'twas their gain, ſo not his loſs: The Growth and Proſperity of the young Plants as well as Fruits in the Aged was his Soul's joy; for it pleaſed the Lord often to make uſe of him as a waterer of his own Heritage which was of his own planting, he was freely given up both to ſpend and be ſpent in Truth's Service, in and about which he ſpent much time and part of his ſubſtance; ſuch was his Zeal for the Lord God and his Bleſſed Truth upon Earth, that he could not make a gain of his gift, but labored
2 Cor. 11.9. *that the Goſpel might be free and he not chargeable* to the Brethren; his Life was not dear to him for the Truth's ſake, for

thou was ſtill of more value to him than either Life or Intereſt in this World; for 'twas my lot to be with him in ſome part of *Ireland* after the Diſtemper which took him away had ſeiz'd upon him, and though his Body was attended with very much Weakneſs, ſo that he was ſcarce able ride between Meeting and Meeting; yet when ſet down in a Meeting among Friends, notwithſtanding his outward Man was weak, yet the inward ſtrong through that Life which comes from the Lord, by which he was qualified and truly fitted with ſeaſonable advice, even in the ſpringing of Life in his own Heart which was very refreſhing to others; he was indued with ſo much Patience in his Weakneſs, that I do not remember I ever heard him fret or murmur under his Exerciſe, but was freely given up to the Lord's diſpoſal.

What ſhall I ſay more of this my Friend whom in the Lord I dearly loved, with whom my Spirit had a near Union and true Fellowſhip beyond words, even as *Jonathan* loved *David*, ſo I in my meaſure this my Friend, who in his day was a Preacher of Righteouſneſs, in Converſation chaſte and of few words, but lavory miniſtring Grace.

Dear *William* my Friend moſt dear, though thy Body be gone to the Grave, yet methinks now I feel thy Spirit lives, and is freſh and living with me at this time, in the remembrance of which together with the ſweet Society I had with thee when in the Body, my Heart is broken into much Tenderneſs; may I not ſay of thee as Holy *Paul* ſaid of himſelf when near departure, *Thou haſt fought the good Fight, kept the Faith and finiſhed thy Courſe*, and it's my belief that thou haſt received the Crown of Righteouſneſs, which the righteous Judge gives to them who thus finiſheth, even as Holy *David* bid, *Mark the upright man and behold the perfect, for the End of that man is Peace.* Farewel my Friend, Eternally farewel. 2 Tim. Pſ.

For ſince it pleaſed God to determinate his Days in this World, I found a Concern upon my Spirit, as one who ought a duty to the Memory of this worthy Servant of the Lord, that it might not be buried with the dead, but be kept in remembrance among the living, as it's written, *the Righteous ſhall be had in Everlaſting Remembrance*, Pſal. 112. 6.

At his departure out of this Life he was ſo far remote from me, and beſides not knowing ſo much of his Weakneſs then as did ſome other Friends, ſo ſhall leave the manner and time to ſuch as were

present; what I have writ concerning this my deceased Friend is premised, first for the discharge of my Duty; secondly that his Memory may be kept up among the Righteous; thirdly and lastly, where this may come, whether, where he was known or unknown, shall desire my Reader to consider our days spin fast away, 'tis not long till an End will come to all Flesh, *then happy forever will such be who have hated Wickedness and loved Righteousness*, a Mansion in the Father's House shall they have, and ever be at rest in that Eternal Kingdom which is prepared for the Righteous; so that such we may be is the real desire of him who wisheth the welfare of all Men through Jesus Christ Our Lord forever, *Amen*.

Peter Fearon.

Broughton in *Cumberland* the 22*d*. of the 2*d*. Month, 1687.

Richard Head *his Testimony concerning* William Carter.

THE remembrance of dear *William Carter* by me cannot easily be forgotten, for he was my dear Friend, whom I loved well for Truth's sake, and it was my Happiness often to injoy his Company, by which I have been many times greatly comforted because of the living Unity and Fellowship I had with him; he was one whom the Lord was pleased to visit in his tender Age in an acceptable Day, which by him was never forgotten, wherein the Lord was pleased to set the way of Life and Death before him, and through the goodness of God he made his Choice with *Mary* of that better part, which was never taken from him, and the Lord was pleased to call him forth into the Work of the Ministry; and through the vertuous Operations of the pure heavenly divine Life of Jesus that did so effectually operate in him, his Soul did many times magnifie the Name of the Lord in the midst of the Assemblies of his People; methinks I cannot but yet remember him, for his Life and Conversation doth yet preach amongst us; he was a Man of a meek and lowly Spirit, yet his Testimony was very quick and powerful, and did reach the Hearts of God's People, many a time so effectually as it did answer the Witness of God

in the Conſcience, both to the condemning of all that which was contrary to the pure Truth; and alſo to the refreſhing of that pure Plant of Righteouſneſs in the Hearts of God's People; this was his great Exerciſe and Travail of Spirit many times amongſt us; and I can truly ſay according to my Meaſure, with many more, his Miniſtry was very effectual to the ſame, which was both to his great Satisfaction and to our great Comfort that did partake of the ſame; and when his time here drew near an End and his Body did much decay, he ſtill retained his Integrity towards the Lord, and nothing was more delightſome to him than to meet often with the Lord's People, and when met to feel of his living Power and Preſence, which he often did to his great Comfort; ſo that I may ſafely ſay, when his outward Man did decay his inward Strength was renewed, ſo that it is my full belief he was fitted and prepared for his long home, and now he is gone to his reſt, *and bleſſed are the dead, which die in the Lord, from hence forth; yea ſaith the Spirit, that they may reſt from their Labours, and their Works do follow them.*

This Teſtimony is part of what reſted upon my Spirit on the behalf of my very dear Friend, who is now deceaſed whom I truly loved and honoured in the Truth, for the Works ſake unto which he was called.

The Teſtimony of Thomas Lower *concerning* William Carter *deceaſed.*

THIS is my Teſtimony concerning our deceaſed Friend *William Carter*, that he was ever ſince my Acquaintance with him a harmleſs innocent Man, and one whoſe Converſation was ſuch as became the Goſpel, and his Company was always very delightful unto me as often as I had the opportunity of injoying it: In his travailing in the Work of the Miniſtry, into which his Entrance was through the right door Chriſt Jeſus, through whom all the true and faithful Labourers in the Goſpel have their Admiſſion into the Miniſtry, and his Service and Labour therein was not with the inticing words of Man's Wiſdom, but in the plainneſs and ſoundneſs of Speech, reaching to the Witneſs of God in the Hearers as the Lord gave him utterance, and his words were the ſavour of life unto life unto all ſuch as were hungring and thirſting after Righteouſneſs, being accompanied with Power from

by the opening of whose Life and Power he was enabled to minister living Refreshment unto the thirsty and to divide the word aright unto others: And his Ministry was not in vain both in this his Native Country, and also in *Ireland*, where he laboured and travailed much in the Work and Service of the Lord, where his illness began, under which he returned into *England* in the Fifth Month in the Year One Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Six, and had a great desire to have come to my House (in *Lancashire* being not much above Twenty Miles from his own House in *Cumberland*) and taken some Physick, but hearing that I was not released from my long Imprisonment in *Carnal*, he deferred till he heard of my return, and then some Weeks after came to my House so weak, that he was three Days of coming, for he could hardly sit on Horse-back, nor come off his Horse but as he was helpt; so as it was marvellous unto me and my Family how he got over the Sands considering his Weakness, and the difficulty of the way, having the Tide to observe in three places, but that the Lord's Power supported him, and carried him through in his Journey to my House, where being come and something given him to refresh him with, he was greatly comforted and well satisfied in his mind that he was gotten to my House, and seemed a while to be somewhat relieved, being at ease in his mind; but we found he still grew weaker and weaker; and my Mother-in-law *Margaret Fox* and *James Lancaster*, and several other Friends came to visit him; and it being askt him how he had setled his Estate, and how it was with him; he said he had setled his Estate before he came from home; and being broken into Tears through the Sense of God's Power which had often refreshed him in Meetings, said he had been faithful to the Lord in his Day and Time, which was now his Comfort, and more he spoke inwardly; but his Voice failing him could not be understood, but in a sweet peaceable quiet frame without any struggling with Death, breathed forth his last Breath the (14*th.* of the 9*th.* Month, 1686,) which is returned to that gave it him, and I fully believe is entered into Everlasting Peace, Rest and Joy with the Lord.

Thomas Lower.

The 14th. Day of the 9th. Month 1686, it is Mainbrough, and was buried the 16th. of the Friend's Burying-place.

Margaret Fox's *Teſtimony concerning dear* William Carter.

I Have this Teſtimony to bear for him, he was a dear honeſt innocent Man, and did bear a faithful Teſtimony for the Lord, both in *Scotland*, *Ireland*, and ſeveral places in *England*, and was an Inſtrument in the Lord's hand, to bring many forth about the place where he lived, and gave up his Houſe for God's People to meet in; And there are many convinced thereabouts, where there is a Meeting now kept: And though his Time in the Publick Service of Truth was not very long; yet he was very faithful and diligent in the Work of the Miniſtry, and very zealous for the Lord and his Truth; And many have cauſe to praiſe the Lord on his behalf. And he was willing to ſpend, and be ſpent for the Lord and his Truth, and ſo took a Sickneſs in *Ireland*, and came over from thence very weak, and after continued at his own Houſe ſome time, and through much weakneſs and difficulty, got over to my Son *Lowers*, and there remained a few days in great weakneſs, and I went over to ſee him, and found him very like for death; and I askt him how it was with him? He anſwered it was very well with him inwardly, but in great weakneſs of Body. And within two days after he died in the Lord, and he hath his Reward of Happineſs and Glory in the Kingdom thereof, and his Teſtimony lives, and his Works do follow him, and are of good report, who was an Inſtrument in the hand of the Lord, for the good of many, in that Country and Meeting to which he did belong, being one of the firſt Plants, amongſt the reſt the Lord hath there raiſed; and though he be dead, he lives for the Lord and his Truth, in the Remembrance of many; Praiſes be to the Lord for evermore.

M. F.

John Nicholſon's *Teſtimony of and concerning* William Carter.

I Have had good experience and knowledge of him above Twenty Years, and can do no leſs than give a ſhort Account of [illegible] he was a Man that [illegible]

Lord: And in the time of his Profession of God and Christ; before he came to receive the Knowledge of the Truth thereof, was zealous and honest, according to what he knew; And he was of a meek Spirit, and did exceed many professing People in that time, in an honest Life and good Conversation, yet could not find remaining Satisfaction to his Soul therein, (to wit in a bare Profession;) For he did tell me, That there was a narrower way to the Kingdom of Heaven, than a bare Profession of God and Christ, so it pleased the Lord to shew him that way; For I being at *Pardshaw* Meeting, met with him there, and as we were coming homeward, he asked me how I did approve of this Peoples Profession, in Scorn called Quakers? My Answer was I did approve of it very well, and he replied in Meekness of Spirit, that he was then satisfied for Religion for ever; for said he, it is the Light of Christ, within that must be our Teacher and Leader; for who through believing and obeying Christ the Light of Life, and taking up the daily Cross to self, comes to witness true Peace with God.

And this my dear Friend and Brother, did good Service for God and his Truth in his day; for the Lord had given him a good gift in Preaching of the Gospel, and he made good use of it to the improving of the same, and he was very ready and willing to serve the Lord and his People in that Work, in which the Lord made him prosperous in his day; For he bore a faithful Testimony for him, both in *England* and *Scotland*; for when he was in *Scotland*, I did receive a Letter from him in the Love of God, desiring me to keep faithful to the Lord and his Truth, and he would add to my Strength, and many godly Exhortations in Letters I received from him, from *Ireland*, and that his Love was great to Friends of our Meeting; for he was one of the first that was convinced in that part, and gave his House up for God's People to meet in; where we had many good and blessed Meetings, not only to his, but to the great Comfort and Satisfaction of many.

And he was willing to spend and be spent for the Lord and his Truth, and for the Preservation of his People in Love and Unity together; and accordingly did spend pretty much of his Time for several Years together, and also part of his Estate and Strength of his Body freely, and faithfully in Truth's Service, as a faithful Minister of the Everlasting Gospel, so that he was made instrumental for good unto many in this day, both in *Eng*[illegible]

upon his Body, ſo that, although he through Providence, got well home, yet his Weakneſs did ſo much increaſe, that he never got from under the ſame till he died; and not long before his departure, he had a deſire to go to *Thomas Lowers* in *Lancaſhire*, where he finiſhed his Courſe in the Faith of Jeſus Chriſt, to the receiving of the Crown of Life and of immortal Glory; and though his Body be laid down, the Memorial of his Life and Blameleſs Converſation, lives with us, and we are often comforted in the Remembrance thereof; together with the many ſweet and comfortable Opportunities we were made partakers of with him in our Meetings, as a living Inſtrument in the Lord's Hand, well fitted and prepared by his living Power and pure Spirit; and that in every good Word, Work and Service; yea ſurely he was a Man of an Excellent Spirit, and I cannot but lament the loſs of him, being of that Meeting to which he did belong, (*viz.*) Weſtſide in *Cumberland*; Howbeit, I am ſo well ſatisfied of his Eternal Happineſs and well-being, in the Everlaſting Kingdom of Glory, that I have Cauſe to bleſs the Lord on his behalf, who over all is worthy of Praiſe, Honour and Glory, for evermore, *Amen.*

Thomas Stannix's *Teſtimony concerning* William Carter, *our dear Friend deceaſed.*

AS for our dear Friend *William Carter*, I have this Teſtimony to give for him, and that in the Sincerity of my Heart; he was a Man which was of a blameleſs Life and Converſation, and of a good report amongſt Men; and not only ſo, but one which was zealous for the Proſperity of the bleſſed Truth, and a true and faithful Labourer in the Goſpel of the Lord Jeſus Chriſt; for as the Lord ſaith by the Prophet, I will make my People a willing People in the day of my Power; ſo the Lord had made him of a willing Mind, even to ſpend and be ſpent for the Lord and his Truth, that many might be reached unto and prevailed upon, in order to bring them into a Divine Senſe of the pure Truth, that they might come on by degrees to know and experience the bleſſed Operation of the Spirit of God within themſelves. Oh! often freſh and living in my remembrance, how zealous and he was many times, in the Work of the Miniſtry,

...ness, that we may, and that unto the End of ... and Life, according thereunto we may follow the Foot-steps ... faithful Followers of the Lamb, that none of us may faint ... our minds by the way, or grow careless or unconcerned in our ... in the Work of the Lord, but that we may finish our Course ... faithfulness, as this faithful Servant of the Lord hath done.

... indeed it was a great Mercy and Blessing unto many, when ... Lord raised up our dear Friend *William Carter*, to bear a faith-... Testimony for the Lord and his Truth, amongst us, in that ... Corner of the Earth, where he lived; for he was one of the ... first, that was convinced of the Truth in that part, who did bear ... faithful Testimony for God both in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, and in ... many places of *England*, where the Lord was pleased to order ... him: For I believe it was his diligent Care, to answer the Lord ... in what he required of him, while he had a day to spend; so that ... I am fully satisfied, that he hath received his Blessed Recompence ... of Reward, and is at Rest with the Lord; As it is written, *Blessed are the dead, which die in the Lord, for they rest from their Labours, and their Works do follow them*; *so unto the Name of the Lord our God, and to the Lamb that sits upon the Throne, be all the Honour and the Glory, for evermore*. Amen.

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